

HIV NON-NAME CODE REPORTING IN CALIFORNIA

MONTHLY HIV UPDATE – APRIL 2003

HIV Reporting Non-Name Code Regulations

California's regulations for reporting HIV infection by Non-Name Code became effective July 1, 2002. The HIV reporting regulations are published in the California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Division 1, Chapter 4, Subchapter 1, Article 3.5, Sections 2641.5–2643.2. These regulations are also accessible via the Department of Health Services, Office of AIDS (OA) web site at <http://www.dhs.ca.gov/AIDS>.

ETR Associates Training for HIV Reporting

ETR Associates delivers training in HIV reporting and offers tools and resources to health care providers and laboratories to simplify the reporting process. Classes are approximately two hours in length and include instruction on how and what to report, how to complete a case report form, and offers a question and answer session. An HIV/AIDS surveillance representative from the local health department (LHD) attends to provide assistance in region-specific protocol and practices. Physicians, laboratory administrators, and their staff who are responsible for communicable disease reporting are encouraged to register for a class in their area as soon as possible in order to adequately comply with the new HIV reporting requirements. Additionally, ETR can provide on-site training and technical assistance to providers.

In March, ETR mailed the revised training curriculum, including information on the new HIV/AIDS Case Report form addendum regarding race/ethnicity, to all LHD surveillance contacts. Additional copies of the curriculum are available from ETR. To order more copies please call Christina Alvarez (831) 438-4080, extension 173, or email your request to: christinaa@etr.org. Please be sure to note the quantity of curricula you need.

ETR has conducted 30 trainings for the first quarter of this year. Of those trainings, 6 were on-site or technical assistance sessions, 3 were sessions at professional meetings or conferences, 17 were regularly scheduled health care provider trainings and 4 were regularly scheduled laboratory trainings. ETR offers continuing education credits to physicians, nurses, health educators, and laboratory scientists. ETR's online registration and training program (the electronic version of the in-class training) is available via the OA web site and is currently being updated to reflect the new curriculum. The web site also provides a link to ETR's training locations, sites, and times. To schedule a site visit or training for your organization or facility, please contact Christina Alvarez by accessing the ETR link on the OA web page. Scroll down to the section titled "Special Training Needs" under the "Live Trainings" section.

Implementation Progress

OA's HIV/AIDS Case Registry staff continue to conduct site visits to LHDs to monitor and facilitate HIV reporting practices, and to assist in contacting and training providers and laboratories. OA encourages LHDs to contact their assigned state surveillance staff member to request a site visit or discuss any special situations that may arise. Frequently asked questions (FAQs) developed for providers and laboratories are available on the OA web site. California HIV data, is now available on the OA website. To locate the HIV data, go to the OA website home page, click on Statistics in the sidebar and follow the prompts.

By March 31, 2003, there were **14,987 unduplicated HIV cases reported to the OA** by 51 LHDs. This is an increase of **2,225** cases since last month's report. The continued early success of the HIV reporting system can be attributed to the cooperative effort of laboratories, health care providers, and the LHD HIV/AIDS surveillance staff. OA extends a special thanks for the challenging work performed by the LHD surveillance staff.

University of California San Francisco AIDS Policy Research Center (APRC) – Survey Acceptability of the HIV Non-Name Code Reporting System

The purpose of this three-year project is to evaluate the acceptability of the HIV Non-Name Code Reporting System by conducting focus groups and interviews with HIV test-takers, advocacy groups, community planning groups, LHD HIV/AIDS surveillance staff, laboratory personnel, medical societies, and health care providers in Fresno, Los Angeles, Riverside, and Santa Clara - the four survey counties. The APRC is currently preparing updated interview guides for Year-2 data collection. Beginning in April and continuing through June, researchers will return to the four survey counties to conduct interviews evaluating the HIV Reporting System.